

1. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at Merseburg airfield between 12 April and 29 May:

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- 2 -

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29 May. No aircraft were observed at the field except for the 4 alert planes. Source assumed that the MIG-15s and U-MIG-15s had again left the field during night flying activity.

2. During May, an increased number of Soviet dependents was observed in Merseburg.

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3.

Comment. The information on the repeated change of the occupation strength at Merseburg airfield since late April 1954 tends to indicate that a large number of aircraft is temporarily absent from the field. The whereabouts of these aircraft has not been determined. On 26 April, 50 MIG-15s and U-MIG-15s were observed at the field, while between 29 April and approximately 10 May, only the alert flight was observed there. The number of MIG-15s was increased to 38 after 10 May and was reduced to the four alert aircraft up to 29 May. It appears possible that the fighter regiment holds exercises at other airfields. Source's information on the number of aircraft and the air activity appears credible.

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